In re Application of: McKenney et al.

Attorney Docket No.: 19558.01US1

Examiner: Gerardo Araque Jr. Application No.: 10/038,572 Art Unit: 3629

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-25 (Canceled)

26. (New) A method for collecting, organizing, presenting and utilizing data for use by an

emergency response team to respond to an emergency situation involving a facility,

comprising:

collecting a plurality of facility data to characterize the facility for later recall by the

emergency response team, the plurality of facility data including at least one of a

photograph, a spherical image, a site plan, a floor plan, hazardous material storage

data, and a plurality of resource data to characterize existing resources that are

available to respond to an emergency situation, the plurality of resource data

including at least one of resource type, resource quantity, resource location and

resource availability;

storing the plurality of facility data and the plurality of resource data in memory on a

computer;

selecting one of a predetermined plurality of options to identify a type of the

emergency situation;

estimating a quantity of people likely to be affected by the emergency situation to

characterize the scope of the emergency situation;

generating a time-phased response to the emergency situation during increments of

time over a predicted duration of the emergency situation, comprising a time-

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phased list of actions to be taken by the emergency response team and a timephased list of resources needed to respond to the emergency situation, the list of
resources including at least one of personnel needed by skill area and supplies
needed, the list of resources further including any shortfall of said personnel and
said supplies, wherein the time-phased response is generated based on at least one
of the selected one of the predetermined plurality of options, the estimated
quantity of people likely to be affected by the emergency situation, and the
plurality of resource data;

entering real-time situational awareness data of the emergency situation comprising annotations describing at least one of damage to the facility and decisions made by the emergency response team regarding placement of resources;

storing said real-time situational data in memory on the computer; and generating an updated response to the emergency situation.

- 27. (New) The method of Claim 26, wherein a responder assets management system is resident within said memory.
- 28. (New) The method of Claim 27, wherein said responder assets management system includes at least one of an information module, a logistics module, an operations module, and a planning module.
- 29. (New) The method of Claim 28, wherein said information module includes a link to at least one of a local weather information source, a national weather information source, standard operating procedures, maps, pictures, and information categorized and populated by a user.

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30. (New) The method of Claim 28, wherein said logistics module is adapted to manage

resources used during an emergency response, said logistics module managing equipment

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data comprising at least one of equipment type, owner, location, date and time of use, and

date and time of return to owner, wherein said step of generating a response includes the

step of determining availability of equipment for use in responding to the emergency

situation.

31. (New) The method of Claim 28, wherein said operations module includes a plurality of

interfaces including at least one of a situational awareness interface, an operations

manager interface, a messenger interface and a status board interface, said method further

including the step of accessing at least one of said plurality of interfaces when responding

to the emergency situation.

32. (New) The method of Claim 31, wherein said situational awareness interface is adapted

to provide said situational awareness data including virtual walk-through functions, pre-

incident planning functions, contingency planning functions, training visualization

functions, and operational support functions, said step of accessing at least one of said

plurality of interfaces including the step of reviewing said situational awareness data

using said situational awareness interface.

33. (New) The method of Claim 32, wherein said situational awareness data further includes

at least one of a floor plan, a site plan and a map, wherein at least one icon representing

localized information is indicated on at least one visual representation of said situational

awareness data to indicate location of a particular item of said localized information, said

step of reviewing said situational awareness data further including the step of selecting

said at least one icon to reveal said localized information.

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34. (New) The method of Claim 31, wherein said operations manager interface is adapted to remotely monitor the status of the emergency situation, said method further including the step of creating a record of the status of the emergency situation including at least the time the emergency situation occurred and the nature of the emergency situation.

- 35. (New) The method of Claim 31, wherein said messenger interface is adapted to support informational messages and data update messages.
- 36. (New) The method of Claim 31, wherein said status board interface is adapted to automatically update said operations module, said method further including the step of monitoring the emergency situation when responding to the emergency situation.
- 37. (New) The method of Claim 26, wherein said situational awareness data are transmittable for review at a remote location.
- 38. (New) A method for providing an automated response to a significant unplanned emergency situation, comprising:

collecting a plurality of resource data comprising equipment that is available to respond to the emergency situation;

storing the plurality of resource data in memory on a computer;

selecting one of a predetermined plurality of options to identify a type of the emergency situation based on the known characteristics of the emergency situation;

entering a predicted number of people that are likely to be affected by the emergency situation to characterize the scope of the emergency situation;

generating a time-phased response to the emergency situation during increments of time over a predicted duration of the emergency situation, including a time-

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phased list of actions needed to respond to the emergency situation and a timephased list of resources needed to respond to the emergency situation;

providing the list of actions needed and the list of resources needed to respond to the emergency situation through an interface to emergency response personnel; and tracking progress of the emergency situation when responding to the emergency situation by the emergency response personnel.

- 39. (New) The method of Claim 38, wherein each of said steps are performed using a Responder Assets Management System that is resident within said memory on said computer.
- 40. (New) The method of Claim 39, wherein said Responder Assets Management System includes at least one of an information module, a logistics module, an operations module, and a planning module.
- 41. (New) The method of Claim 40, wherein said operations module includes a response options generator interface adapted to automatically generate said list of actions and said list of resources needed to respond to the emergency situation.
- 42. (New) The method of Claim 41, further including the step of responding to the emergency situation by the emergency response personnel, wherein said step includes following said list of actions needed and said list of resources needed throughout the duration of said response to the emergency situation.
- 43. (New) The method of Claim 42, wherein said step of responding to the emergency further includes the step of inputting into said response options generator interface a date and time of completion of each of said action in said list of actions.

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44. (New) The method of Claim 43, wherein said step of tracking progress of the emergency

situation when responding to said emergency situation by the emergency response

personnel includes the step of tracking a date and time of initiation of each of said action

and said time of completion of each of said action using the response options generator

interface.

45. (New) The method of Claim 38, wherein said list of resources needed includes at least

one of personnel by skill area and supplies required during each increment of time over a

predicted duration of the emergency situation.

46. (New) A method for managing resources for an emergency situation, comprising:

collecting a plurality of environmental data to characterize at least one of a facility, a

community, and a geographical region, and a plurality of resource data to

characterize existing resources that are available to respond to an emergency

situation;

storing the plurality of environmental data and the plurality of resource data in

memory on a computer;

selecting one of a predetermined plurality of options to identify a type of the

emergency situation;

entering a predicted number of people that are likely to be affected by the emergency

situation; and

generating a response to the emergency situation during each increment of time over

a predicted duration of the emergency situation, wherein the response is generated

based on at least one of the selected one of the predetermined plurality of options,

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the predicted number of people likely to be affected by the emergency situation, and the plurality of resource data, wherein the response comprises:

a time-phased list of actions to be taken by an emergency response team;

a time-phased list of resources needed to respond to the emergency situation, including at least one of personnel needed by skill area and supplies needed to respond to the emergency situation,

a time-phased list identifying any shortfall in at least one of the amount and type of resources needed; and

a time-phased casualty projection including a profile of sick, wounded, and displaced people over time.

- 47. (New) The method of Claim 46, wherein the plurality of environmental data includes at least one of a photograph, a spherical image, a site plan, a floor plan, a geographical map, and hazardous material storage data.
- 48. (New) The method of Claim 46, wherein the plurality of resource data includes at least one of resource type, resource quantity, resource location and resource availability.
- 49. (New) The method of Claim 46, further including the step of generating at least one time-phased human impact profile describing a time-phased effect on the predicted number of people during each increment of time over the predicted duration of the emergency situation.